"The South 40"
by JAMES A. SMITH
EXTENSION AGENT

We're happy to report that in 1975 the Dark Fire Cured Tobacco Recognition Awards Program will be continued. Application forms will be available in a few weeks.

The 1974 participants will attend a recognition banquet, Monday, Feb. 17, at the high school.

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Although we only have a few hay producers using the big package bales, others will follow. There is a real danger in handling the large bales with front-end tractor loaders. A number of fatalities have been reported when the load was raised too high and the load dumped rearward.

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Color in farm buildings is not always a frill. This may increase pride in ownership and yield better management and certainly it adds color to the countryside.

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Grain hauling losses can be costly during transport. Studies show losses of more than 15 bushels of wheat from an uncovered truck traveling 8 mules.

It's good management to cover loads of grain and soybeans when moving to and from storage.

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Several days ago I uncovered an economic study of 238 farms in the Stonewall Community that was done in 1935. This was 40 years ago but for fear we might forget where we have been and where we are now, I'd like to review some of its highlights.

20 of the farms were eliminated from the study because the operator received more than 15% of his income from non-farm sources. The average farm size was 225 acres. It had 6.4 acres of pasture per animal unit, 51 acres of crops and 45 acres of pasture. The farms averaged 6 acres of Dark Tobacco with an average yield of 870 pounds, 14 acres of corn averaging 28 bushels and 10 acres of wheat averaging 16 bushels. Tobacco represented 85% of cash crop sales of $497. All crop sales averaged $639.

The average livestock investment per farm was $640. 95 percent of the farms had dairy cattle, 98 percent had poultry and there was one work animal per 22 acres of crops. Livestock sales averaged $107. Eggs were the most important averaging $47 per farm.

Average farm receipts were $1045 and average farm expenses were $771. Lime and fertilizer costs averaged $73 or 58% of all costs and taxes averaged $41 per farm.

Conveniences as we know them were rare. These people lived in true austerity. 95 percent of the homes had kerosene lighting, only 1.6 per cent had electricity, 95 per cent of the homes were heated by stoves, only 8.7 per cent had radios, 1.6 per cent had telephones and 49.6 per cent had automobiles.

There has been a lot of change over the past 40 years, although the people had few worldly goods, these figures cannot affect the happiness and love in their homes.

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FIGHT CANCER
American Cancer Society

Driving Tip

Using jumper cables to start a car with a dead battery is a familiar scene in the winter. It is also a dangerous scene. Too often the battery explodes causing eye damage, facial disfigurement, and even death. The Virginia Society for the Prevention of Blindness urges motorists to use the correct procedures in jump starting a car to avoid possible tragedy.

The first step is to remove the vent caps of both batteries and cover the vents with a cloth. Attach the red cable to the positive terminal of the "dead" battery, then to the positive terminal of the "love" (booster) battery. Next, the black cable should be attached to the negative terminal of the "live" battery, then to the engine block of the car with the "dead" battery. The steps should be reversed in removing the cables. Before attempting to "jump start" a foreign car, read the owner's manual.

DRIVE CAREFULLY
SCHOOL IS OUT

Santa Helps Jaycees

Santa Claus visited some special children Thursday as the Appomattox Jaycees entertained the youngsters with a movie, a meal and a shopping tour. The Jaycees expressed their thanks to everyone who attended or helped with their Country Music Show which made Thursday's event possible.

GREETINGS
At the ... needs ... Christmas ... we ... happy ... you and your ...
Irby and Eloise Wheeler
SPOUT SPRING, VA.

JOYOUS NOEL
May faith be your guide this Christmas to the blessings of the season. Sincere greetings to all our friends.
Harry & Gladys Johnson

Senators Urge President To Cut Federal Paperwork

WASHINGTON - A bipartisan group of Senators has joined U. S. Senator William L. Scott of Virginia is urging President Ford to take administrative action to reduce Federal paperwork cost and burden on the public in an effort to combat inflation and cut red tape.

Expressing a common desire to cut government spending without unduly reducing needed services, the letter ... initiated by Senator Scott and signed by 25 other Senators -- suggested that the President direct all agencies and departments to reduce or eliminate unnecessary and duplicative Federal forms and related paperwork. The Senators noted that the General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress, has estimated the government spends around $15 billion annually for paperwork, and the yearly cost to business represents an additional $20 - 25 billion.

"The result is not only a drain on the national budget but a burden on businessmen who must fill out numerous forms and return them for processing ---Rather than creating a commission or conducting more studies, it seems appropriate for administrative action to be taken to urge all departments and agencies of government to reduce the cost and burden of paperwork within their respective jurisdictions."

The Office of Management and Budget and the General Accounting Office are presently studying aspects of the paperwork problem and the Senators suggested the President coordinate government-wide action with the findings of the OMB and GAO studies. "The business community constantly complains of the burden of paperwork by government, and such action could be helpful in combating inflation and assisting business," the letter continued.

Former President Nixon initiated a similar effort a few years ago, and a report issued by OMB in May, 1972, indicated it had resulted in a saving of approximately $270 million to the government and a saving of 7.8 million man-hours to the public through the elimination of unnecessary paperwork.

Others joining Scott include Senators Carl T. Curtis, James L. Buckley, Clifford P. Hansen, James A. McClure, Paul Fannin, Harry F. Byrd, William Proxmire, John C. Stennis, James O. Eastland, Bill Brock, Wallace H. Bennett, Bob Dole, John McClellan, Jesse Helms, Edward J. Gurney, Roman Hruska, Barry Goldwater, John Tower, Strom Thurmond, Robert Taft, Jr., William Roth, James B. Allen, Peter H. Dominick, Milton Young, and Dewey Bartlett.

Christmas Greetings
Spirits are light! There's much happy cheer and merriment as we join in the celebration of Christmas.
Jamerson Insurance Agency
Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Bob) Jamerson Appomattox, Va

HOME IMPROVEMENT
FINANCING AVAILABLE
FREE ESTIMATES...
LET NATIONWIDE HOMES
MAKE YOUR HOME A MORE ENJOYABLE PLACE TO LIVE
• CUSTOM KITCHENS
• CARPETS AND FLOOR COVERING
• STORM WINDOWS AND DOORS
• HEATING SYSTEMS
• ROOM ADDITIONS AND PORCHES
• COMPLETE PLUMBING AND WATER HEATERS
• WELLS DRILLED AND PUMPS INSTALL
• BASEMENTS MADE INTO ROOMS
• ALUMINUM SIDING INSTALLED
• CARPORTS AND GARAGES
• HOUSES UNDERPINNED
• HOUSES BRICKED AND PAINTED
• SEPTIC SYSTEMS
• ROOFING • GUTTERING
• BATH ROOMS • FIREPLACES
• MANY OTHER ITEMS
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I AM INTERESTED IN FREE INFORMATION AND ESTIMATES WITHOUT OBLIGATION, ON IMPROVEMENTS ON MY HOME.
Name
Address
Phone No.
Best Time To Call
Location Of Our Home
NATIONWIDE HOME IMPROVEMENT CO., INC.
Route 1, Box 135-A
Evington, Virginia 24550
239-2607 — Rodney Andrews

Merry Christmas
Happy holidays! Hope they're packed with spirited, fun times and lots of special Christmas cheer.
Floyd, Buck & Pat Hudson

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